furnished. The weight of the casks with the oil alone can be ascertained by lifting the whole thing by the crane. What is thereby ascertained is the weight of the casks or barrels together with the contents and not of the barrel or of the contents alone. For that purpose, the proposal was to have the empty cask weighed and the weight registered before it was filled. For that, a notification was proposed to be published. Mr. Gomatinayagom Pillai, my predecessor, attended a meeting of the Travancore Chamber of Commerce when this question was discussed by the members of the Chamber. They raised a very strong objection to the proposal and said that it was not possible to register the empty casks in advance. That was because the planks may sustain damage and may have to be replaced before they are filled with oil, and therefore there will be an alteration in weight. So the members of the Chamber were opposed to the proposal; and as the idea was found to be impracticable, it was given up. The platform arrangement was not used on that ground.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): It is stated that it is not a sure test and that there is likely to be a margin of error in the weighment by the dip-road. May I know the margin of error?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): It is very little, it is not even 1 per cent.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Is it necessary that the cargo should be landed for ascertaining the proper weight by means of the dip-rod?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) No, it is not necessary that the cargo should be landed.

Defaulters among toddy shop contractors.

89 ***MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR** (*Shertala II*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any defaulter for the contract period of 1106 and 1107 was given toddy shops in the subsequent period of 1108 and 1109; if so, the number of such defaulters who were given shops and the original total amount of the rental of the shops so defaulted;

(*b*) whether the previous defaulters who were given shops have again defaulted; if so, whether the shops so defaulted have been re-sold;

(*c*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the affirmative, whether there is any difference in the rental by the resale; if so, the amount of the difference;

(*d*) whether this difference in the amount was realised from defaulting contractors; and

(*e*) if the answer to part (*d*) is in the negative, whether any of such amounts has been written off as unrealisable; if so, the total amount so written off during the contract period of 1108 and 1109?

MR C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) (*a*) Yes. 16 defaulters for the contract period of 1106-1107 were given shops for the subsequent contract period of 1108-1109. The total original rental of the shops held during the 1106-1107 contract by such defaulters was Rs. 39,045-0-0.

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[C. O. Madhavan.]

(*b*) Yes. A few of the defaulters who were given shops again defaulted during 1108-1109 contract. These shops were resold.

(*c*) Yes. There was a decrease of Rs. 4,241-24-12.

(*d*) Proceedings under the Revenue Recovery Regulation are in progress for the realisation of the amounts due from the contractors who defaulted.

(*e*) No amount has been written off.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): With regard to the answer to part (*a*), may I know whether the shops of the defaulters were re-sold in that year?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes, that is why they are called defaulters.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): May I know from the member for how much they were resold?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): That information is not with me now.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertallai II*): May I know from the member why these 1106-1107 defaulters were again given shops during the period 1108-1109?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Sir, it is only at the end of the year of any contract that we come to know whether a man becomes a defaulter or not. The *kists* are expected to be paid before the end of Edavam. But even persons who are not defaulters pay up only before the end of Karkatakam. But the auction begins in Meenam and ends with Mithunam. It is therefore not possible to know at the time of the auction whether any bidder may become a defaulter later on, and to exclude him from participation in the auction.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): What is the amount of default?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): That information is not now available.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Regarding the answer to part (*d*), may I know from the member how much amount has been actually collected so far under the Revenue Recovery Regulation?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I claim notice.

Judges and Munsiffs.

90. *MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a caste-war list of the High Court Judges, District and Session Judges, Second, Additional and Temporary Judges and District Munsiffs, permanent and temporary?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state:

(i) whether the principle of communal representation is followed in the matter of recruitment of Judges and Munsiffs;

(ii) if the answer is in the affirmative, whether it is followed both in the initial appointment and in the matter of promotions; and

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